



# Calder Primary School

## Newsletter

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### Class News

#### Class R

We have had a busy week with Nativity rehearsals but also managed to do lots of fabulous reading and writing in phonics. We have found out about nocturnal and diurnal animals in topic. In maths we have been looking at the composition of 5, 1 more and 1 less and shapes with 4 sides. We also enjoyed exploring the ice and snow!

#### Class 1

This week Class 1 have been working hard. In maths we have been recognising 3D and 2D shapes, counting sides and vertices and sorting them into groups based on their properties. In topic we have been comparing modern life to the Victorian age, looking at the education system, jobs, houses, clothes and food. In science we have been learning all about electricity. We found out that electricity can come from 2 sources, the mains (plug socket) and batteries (store electricity). We discussed the positives and negatives of each source and then sorted appliances into items that need electricity and items that don't. Alongside all this amazing learning, we have been practising our nativity as much as possible and the children are AMAZING!

#### Class 2

Class 2 had a super week this week. They have worked really hard practising for the Christmas tree dressing and the Christmas show! In English we have started exploring our new story 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx'. In maths, Year 3 have learned the written method for multiplying two-digit and one-digit numbers while Year 4 have been finding and using factor pairs to solve complicated problems. In science, we explored how to make a complete circuit and discovered how to light a bulb and use a buzzer in a circuit. A great week everyone!

#### Class 3

Class 3 have been busy investigating the features of a newspaper report this week in preparation for writing their own next week, based on the return of Ernest Shackleton and his Endurance crew! In maths, Year 5 have been working on finding equivalent fractions while Year 6 have been finding common denominators between fractions in order to add and subtract them - they even managed to do this with mixed numbers too! In topic, Class 3 developed their own historical enquiry questions around the lives of the Anglo-Saxons and Scots to research in lesson. They worked hard at finding accurate information and putting it in their own words. During our science lesson we looked at how electricity flows through a circuit. We re-capped our learning on electrical symbols and also had to explain how different factors could change or affect the flow of electricity in a

### Diary Dates

7.12.23 AM KS2 Team to Tenpin Bowling Competition

**6.12.23 2pm and 6pm Nativity Show (all pupils involved)**

15.12.23 End of Term Awards Assembly (families welcome)

19.12.23 Whole School Pantomime Trip

20.12.23 Christmas Parties

**21.12.23 \*Thursday\* School Closes**

**8.1.23 School reopens for Spring Term**

23.1.23 Class 1 trip to Royal Armouries, Leeds

### Tree Dressing Assembly

We hope those of you who were able to join us this morning for our Tree Dressing Assembly enjoyed it. This Assembly is a tradition we brought with us from Cragg Vale and always signals the beginning of our Christmas events (more about these on the next page of this newsletter). Special thanks go to Jobey and Oliver (our oldest and youngest pupils) for turning on our Christmas tree lights. Well done! 😊

### Winter Weather

We have experienced a bout of particularly cold weather this week and politely request that all children come to school with a suitable outdoor coat. We like to get everybody outside for playtimes as often as possible but have noticed some pupils are not suitable dressed to go onto the playground in such low temperatures. If you have any old winter coats your children have outgrown that you would be happy for us to keep in school as spares, please drop these off at the main office. Thank you.

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## Golden Book Awards

### Kindness Awards:

Class R: Niamh D-G

Class 1: Poppy

Class 2: Liora

Class 3: Lewis

### Stars of the Week:

Class R: Mila

Class 1: Jack

Class 2: Harriet

Class 3: Holly

## Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

As always, this is a busy time of year at school with lots of different events taking place. A full list of these has been emailed out and is also at the end of this newsletter!

Please note school will close for the Christmas holiday at **1pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. All gates to the site will be open from 12.50pm but you will be **unable to drive up Appleyard Road** due to the buses so please park offsite and walk to collect your child. If you would prefer to collect your child from the top door of our building next to the High School field, please let us know and we can arrange to meet you there rather than in the playground as usual.

Pupils will have lunch in school as usual before coming home. This will be pizza and wedges or a cheese sandwich or a ham sandwich followed by chocolate mousse. If your child has school dinner, please let Mrs Pickup know whether they would like the pizza, cheese sandwich or ham sandwich option as soon as possible. If your child usually has a packed lunch but would like to have a school lunch on this day, that's no problem and once again please just let Mrs Pickup know which of the above options they would prefer.

A final message about lunches – it is our

**Christmas lunch on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**.

If you have not yet sent your child's menu choice for this or would like your child to have Christmas lunch, please email

[primary@calderlearningtrust.com](mailto:primary@calderlearningtrust.com) as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Nativity Performances

A reminder that our Nativity performances are next **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and 6pm**. If you are planning to come, please make sure you see Mrs Pickup for tickets. There is no charge for tickets, but we do need to limit the audience numbers attending each performance which is why you need to pre-book and can't just come along on the day.

Our Reception and Class 1 children will be performing 'Baarmy Bethlehem' followed by our Key Stage 2 pupils with a retelling of a Christmas story we're sure you'll enjoy. Our choir will be performing and there will be lots of Christmas singing from all the children.

**Both performances will be in the Theatre.** If you are coming for **2pm, please use either the Midgley Road or Brier Hey Lane gates to enter the site from 1.50pm**. For the **6pm performance, all pupils will need to return to the Theatre for 5.40pm**. All gates to the site will be open at this time. If you are not joining the audience for the evening performance, please return to **collect your child from the Theatre at 6.45pm**. If you have any questions or problems, please speak to a member of staff.

## Forest School News

This week in forest school, we have started thinking about our next whole school challenge. Every child will get a round log piece and they will then have to create their own Christmas design. We are going to go up to our forest school area, as a whole school next week and put them on the trees up there to decorate. We cannot wait to see the designs that the children choose!

## End of Term Assembly

Our end of term Celebration Assembly will be on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 9am** in the Primary Hall. All families are welcome to join us. If your child received the Star of the Term award in Summer, please return this to school so we can pass it on to the next deserving winner!

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### After School Clubs

We are currently planning the after school clubs that we will be able to offer pupils from January and will send details of these out as soon as they are confirmed.

Meanwhile we have been speaking to the PE department at Calder High and are able to open up some of their after school sports clubs to **Year 6**. All clubs run until **4pm** and there is **Football and Netball on Mondays, Rugby on Wednesdays and Hockey on Thursdays**. All of these clubs are open to both boys and girls and will run until Easter.

If your child is in **Year 6** and would like to join one of these Secondary sports clubs, please email Mrs Pickup to let us know. Your child can get changed into their PE kit and join the club straight after school then you can collect them from the main Primary entrance at 4pm. If you'd prefer them to walk home independently or to collect them from elsewhere on the school site (for example, directly from the school field or MUGA) just state this in your email and we will pass that information on to the teacher who is running the club.

### Active News

Reception have been doing lots of dancing and active games in Maths. Class 1 have been on a shape hunt. Class 2 have made circuits in Science and played some active multiplication games. Class 3 have also been busy making circuits in Science. All classes have been busy rehearsing for our Christmas assembly and Nativity performances.

### Pupil Christmas Cards

Our Christmas postbox will be in school from **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December** and our friendly posties will deliver cards around school. If your child is sending cards, please can we ask that the recipient's name is clearly on the front of the envelope and if a surname, year group or class can be added too that would help enormously to make sure all cards are delivered correctly!

### Well done!

We wanted to say well done to all the pupils (current and past!) who performed in St Michael's Amateurs Juniors in Concert (Smajic)'s production of Frozen last week – you were magnificent and it was a pleasure to watch you! We know lots of children went along to watch too and we have some keen Year 2's who are waiting to be old enough to join in as well!

We would like to thank the choir and Miss Appleyard who performed at the Mytholmroyd Light Up the Valley event last week – fantastic singing everyone! There were lots of lovely comments from our local community about your enthusiasm and smiles!

We would also like to congratulate Angelina on achieving her grade 2 drumming award recently, fabulous!

Congratulations to Billy and Elizabeth for qualifying for the Calderdale School Games Cross Country finals at our HX7 qualifier race, coming in the top 5 of children from our 12 local schools.

Unfortunately, Elizabeth was unwell this week but Billy represented Calder Primary brilliantly at the finals – achieving an impressive 36th place. Thank you to everyone who has taken part in Cross Country this season, it has been great to hear your improving scores and great teamwork. There will be another couple of races after Christmas as part of our local league too.

Finally thank you to everyone who supported our Rotary shoebox appeal this year, it is very much appreciated. As promised, our 3 shoebox helpers came down to gather the shoeboxes and have their annual photograph too (thanks Miss Smith!) which you can see below.

*Mrs Lambert*

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## Christmas at Calder Primary 2023



<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00am Christmas Tree Dressing Assembly</b> Join us for a special assembly where we decorate our Christmas tree and turn the lights on together as well as sharing some Christmas tree trivia and some favourite Christmas songs to start the festivities!
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>3.15-5.30pm Calder Primary PTA Christmas Fair</b> in our Calder Primary building. There will be stalls, crafts, games, cakes, refreshments and more! Please can we ask for donations of small toys/prizes for games, bottles for the tombola and food/drink items for the luxury hamper raffle.
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>2pm 'Baarmy Bethlehem' Nativity</b> in the <b>Calder High Theatre</b> . Tickets available from Mrs Pickup – please see the letter for details. Please use either Midgley Road or Brier Hey Lane gates to enter the site from 1.50pm (it is not possible to use Appleyard Road gate entrance to arrive at this time). Pupils will return to their classrooms afterwards, please collect them from Calder Primary as usual. There is no cost for tickets, but we will hold a charity collection at the end if you are able to donate.
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>6pm 'Baarmy Bethlehem' Nativity Show</b> in the <b>Calder High Theatre</b> . Tickets available from Mrs Pickup. Please come to the theatre for <b>5.40pm</b> for pupils to arrive and change as appropriate whilst you take your seats. All gates will be open at this time. <b>All pupils are needed to attend.</b> If you are not watching, please collect your child from the theatre main entrance at <b>6.45pm</b> .
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Lunch</b> All pupils are invited to join us for our Primary Christmas Lunch. If your child usually has packed lunches and would like to take part, please email Mrs Pickup.
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Reindeer Run</b> We are once again taking part in Overgate Hospice's Reindeer Run. Pupils are sponsored to take part in this fun, active challenge to support our local hospice. Sponsorship forms will be coming home with pupils -antlers and noses are provide by Overgate!
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00am Carols, Music and Awards Assembly</b> - join us to sing Christmas carols together and listen to some festive performances from some of our Calderdale Music Trust students as well as our end of term award presentations. If your child was awarded the Star Award at the end of the Summer Term, please return these to school by Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December.
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.30am PTA Shop and Wrap</b> Pupils can buy presents for their families for 50p per item – they may bring up to £2 to spend on up to 4 items (if we have enough). Parent and staff volunteers will help them wrap and label the presents too. Donations of items to buy, wrapping paper and bows/ribbons are welcomed please to make it possible. If you would like to come along and help please let us know, we would be very grateful!
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Whole School Pantomime Visit</b> We will be leaving after morning registration and pupils will need to bring a water bottle. Please pay via Parentpay. We will return to school for a late lunchtime so pupils will have a packed lunch (please let us know if they are school dinners but wish to bring their own packed lunch instead)
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>1pm Christmas Parties</b> Pupils can bring in their party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch for an afternoon of fun and games.
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Jumper Day</b> Pupils are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers or Christmas outfits if preferred (Santas, elves etc) Pupils may wear non-uniform items <b>with</b> their Christmas jumper or outfit! No money is needed. <b>1.00pm Break- up for Christmas</b> Lunch arrangements will be confirmed by email this week. All site gates will be open from 12.50pm, <b>you will not be able to drive up Appleyard Road due to the buses so please park off site and walk in to collect from any CLT entrance.</b> After-school providers have been told our finishing times but please liaise with them about your arrangements. Calder High finish at 1.20pm. <b>Toys and Games</b> Pupils may bring a toy or game in to share with friends, no electronics such as consoles or phones please.

*We hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all again on  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024!*

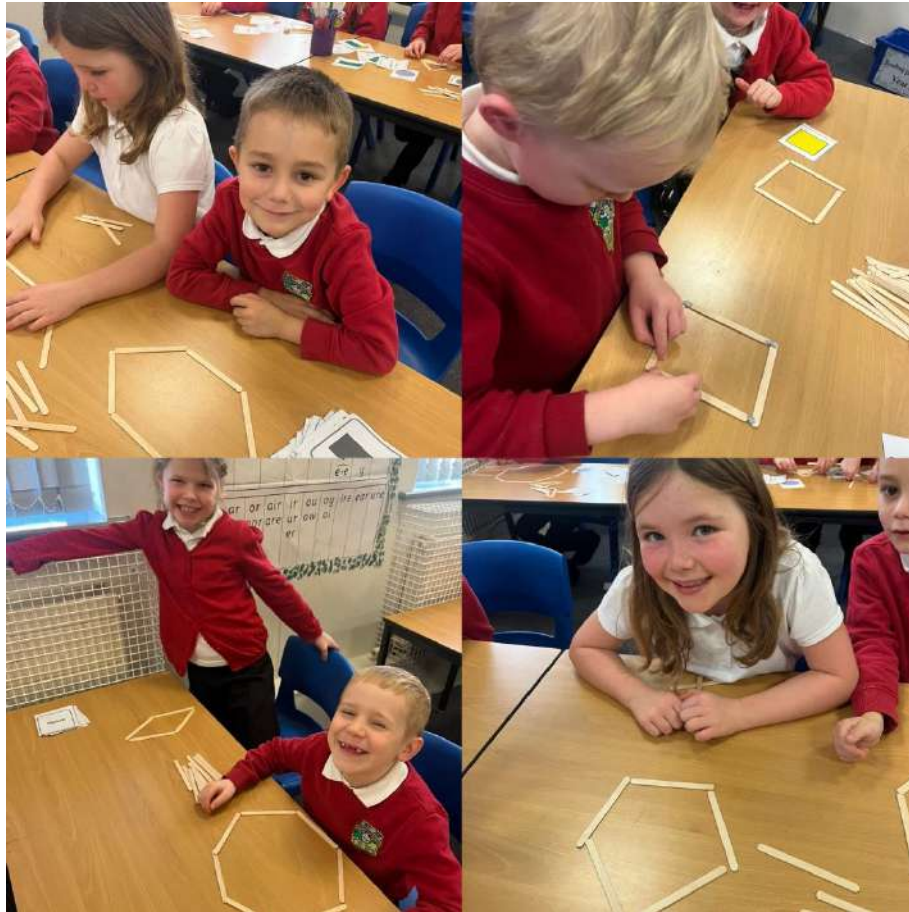
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Calder Primary School

# *Christmas Fair*

Friday 1st December 3:15pm-5:30pm

Stalls, games, cafe and lots of festive fun!

**Parentkind**  
Member Association

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16  
DECEMBER

9.30-12noon  
CALDERDALE MUSIC  
THE OLD COURT HOUSE  
BLACKWALL  
HX1 2DL

# CHRISTMAS FAIR



SANTA|STALLS|MULLED WINE|MINCE PIES|CAROLS|GAMES|CRAFTING



Calderdale  
Music

@calderdale\_music  
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